



Item No.5b Town of Atherton

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE – REGULAR AGENDA

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

FROM: SALLY BENTZ-DALTON – PARK MANAGER

DATE: MARCH 2ND, 2022

SUBJECT: Feedback and consideration of a 90-minute option for tennis reservations at HPP

Discussion

Town staff received comment from a citizen requesting the ability to reserve a court for up to 90 minutes. See public comment below.

Because this is a contract policy item it will be Town's staff's decision to make the change. Staff is looking for feedback and will make a final decision.

The Park & Rec Committee can discuss the pros and con's and provide feedback. Caroline Bowers and Michael Jessup with Player Capital Tennis have been invited to the meeting.

Staff found that a set is collection of games, played until a player wins six games (or more). A match is played to a best-of-three or five sets. On average, best-of-3 tennis matches last about 90 minutes

Because this is a contract policy item it will be Town's staff's decision to make the change. Staff is looking for feedback and will make a final decision.

Public Comment

From: Caroline Bowers

Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 9:13 PM

To: Sally Bentz <sbentz@ci.atherton.ca.us>;

Subject: Please forward to Parks & Recreation Committee members

Dear Atherton Holbrook Palmer Parks & Recreation Committee Members,

I hope this email finds you well. I am an Atherton resident and am writing regarding the Holbrook Palmer Park tennis courts that are managed by Player Capital and the reservation system which limits playing time for the tennis court key holders to a maximum of 60 minutes, once per day.

Currently, people who purchase the annual tennis court key and use the online court reservation system can only book two choices: 30 minutes or 1 hour. I would like to request that the reservation system be modified to allow for 90-minute reservations also.

Those who know and play tennis (including the tennis experts at Player Capital) know that a standard three set tennis match cannot be completed in one hour (two sets often can't be finished in that time). The current time restriction to one hour makes it difficult for key holders to play friendly matches with friends and family.

I did reach out to Michael Jessup, the owner of Player Capital, to request that they adjust their online reservation system to accommodate 90-minute reservations. Mr. Jessup advised that the decision is made by the Parks and Recreation Committee and when he brought up the idea of allowing for 90-minute reservations, the Committee did not wish to make the change. It is unclear to me if the change is not desired by The Parks & Rec Committee or by Player Capital, who manages and often monopolizes the time available on the only tennis courts in our Town.

I am hopeful that you will require Player Capital to make this simple modification to the tennis court reservation system. With a reservation that allows for the amount of time needed, the courts would be much more useful to residents/key holders.

Sincerely,

Caroline Bowers

Atherton Resident and Holbrook Palmer Park Tennis Court Key Holder